APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 442-A asked by Sri K. P. Gopalan at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 12th December 1952, page 682 supra.]

(*a*) There has been no new rule or policy introduced in respect of promotions from IV and V Forms. The usual annual school examinations continue at the end of each year in these forms.

As for Form VI, in November 1949, not long after the abolition of the selection examination at a meeting of the headmasters with the Director of Public Instruction in the chair, it was recommended that the selection examination in S.S.L.C. should be revived. In March 1950, the State Advisory Board of Education favoured such revival, but expressed its desire "that headmasters should not detain too many students". The then Director of Public Instruction recommended the acceptance of the decision of the State Advisory Board. The Board of Secondary Education (in September 1950) passed a resolution requesting the Government to revive the system of selection. This resolution was reiterated by the Board of Secondary Education at its meeting held in August 1951. The Madras City Headmasters' Association again pressed for the revival of the election examination. The Government decided to revive the selection examination in August 1951, but the then Government postponed decision and left it over for the consideration of their successors. The present Government requested the Director of Public Instruction, in July 1952, to re-examine this question and state his views. The Director of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Board of Secondary Education which met in August 1952, recommended to Government that the headmasters should have the discretion to select and present candidates who have completed satisfactorily their course of study for the S.S.L.C. examination. Their view was that, in so far as the S.S.L.C. examination does not declare a candidate to have passed or failed but provides only for a completion of the prescribed course in the forms, an examination in the VI Form also was necessary, to assess whether the candidate had made satisfactory progress. Hence, this provision was considered to be educationally sound. The Government reviewed the question and accepted the recommendation in favour of the revival of the examination in the VI Form for selection and presentation of students for the S.S.L.C. examination. A copy of the relevant Government Order (G.O. No. 2313, Education, dated 7th October 1952) is placed on the table of the House.

(*b*) Representations have been received.

Copy of G.O. Ms. No. 2313. Education, dated 7th October 1952.

[Examinations—S.S.L.C.—System of selections—Revival—Orders passed.]

Order—No. 2313, *Education, dated 7th October* 1952.

The Government have reviewed the question of the revival of the system of selection of students for the S.S.L.C. examination and pass the following orders :—

(i) The Government consider that the system of the selection of candidates for the S.S.L.C. Examination in March, by a written

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test in the VI Form should again be introduced in the high schools in the State.

(ii) There should be detentions as a result of the annual examinations at the IV and V Form stages also.

(iii) A not-too-strict standard should be prescribed for the test held in the VI Form for the selection of candidates for the S.S.L.C. Examination as well as for promotion from IV and V Forms, so as to allow students who are not up to the required standard to make up, if possible, for their past lack of diligence. In addition to the written tests a system of external oral tests may be introduced the results of which being made to cover the deficiencies of the candidates in the written examinations.

The orders may be given effect to from the S.S.L.C. Examination for 1953.

The Director of Public Instruction is requested to propose suitable amendments to the S.S.L.C. Scheme.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 467 asked by Sri V. Sri Krishna at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 12th December 1952, page 693 supra.]

Romperu Drainage Scheme.

(*a*) Reasons for delay—

(1) Unseasonal floods during the working season which is only 4 or 5 months in the year.

(2) Difficulty in excavation under water, unsuitability of existing plant for the underwater and slushy type of soil, and non-availability of the required earth moving machinery and dredgers, the existing dredgers being old.

(3) Tendered rates being prohibitively high, tenders had to be negotiated to keep down the cost.

(4) Postponement and replanning of some work due to high rates quoted by the tenderers.

(5) Reductions in grant due to Ways and Means position of the State.

(*b*) At the present rate of progress it may take another three years to complete the scheme.

(*c*) There is no proposal to utilize the water for irrigation as gravity irrigation is not possible and supply is not dependable. Lift irrigation from the drain is however allowed on application by private parties where conditions are suitable.